

In response, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse to prosecute the subject matter of Specie III (Figures 14 to 19) in the present application. Applicants submit that Claims 1 to 3 and 5 to 23 read on the elected Specie III.

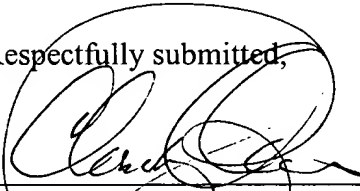
Applicants reserve all rights to the subject matter recited in non-elected Claims 4 and 24 to 30.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction/Election of Species Requirement. Without conceding the Examiner's characterization of the claimed invention, Applicants believe that a thorough search of the relevant art for Species III will require substantial consideration of the art relevant to Species I, II and IV to VI. Separate search and examination by separate Examiners may lead to duplicate work and inconsistent results. Accordingly, Applicants submit that it would be administratively and economically preferable to search and examine all of the claims together, and request that the Restriction/Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn and that all pending claims be examined in the present application.

Applicant believes that the present paper is fully responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species/restriction requirement, and consideration on the merits of all pending claims at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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